Chapter 10 – Resources

This chapter includes publications, Internet resources, and library organizations that may be helpful in developing library services, programs, and collections for older adults.

The resources are organized into four categories:

- General Resources - Resources in this category will give an overview on seniors and library services.

- Collection Development - Resources in this category will help libraries develop collections targeting seniors.

- Programs and Services - Resources in this section will give ideas for developing and refining library programs and services for seniors.

- Senior Life - Resources in this section are designed for and used by seniors. By visiting these sites you will gain useful information about trends in the senior population – their concerns, desires, fears, needs, and what books and music they are enjoying. Being aware of senior life will also help staff develop programs and services for seniors. Additionally, there are often legislative updates on issues and entitlements concerning seniors. As an added bonus, free resources, such as pamphlets on topics such as diabetes, arthritis, and Alzheimer's disease, are offered to agencies such as libraries.

General Resources

Print Resources

American Library Association. *Library Services to Older Adults Guidelines.* Chicago: American Library Association, 1999. *http://www.ala.org/rusa.stnd_older.html.*

> This document, prepared by the Library Services to an Aging Population Committee, defines library service to older adults and offers guidelines for librarians to use with them. It is appended to this manual.

Donavin, Denise Perry. *Aging with Style and Savvy: Books and Films on the Challenges Facing Adults of All Ages.* Chicago: American Library Association, 1990.

Focus: Library Service to Older Adults, Persons with Disabilities. Indiana University/Indiana Institute on Disability and Community Center for Disability Information and Referral.

> Subscriptions may be obtained from the publisher at Indiana University/Institute on Disability and Community Center for Disability Information and Referral, 2853 East Tenth Street, Bloomington, IN 47408-2696. There are

per copy rates available, as well as a rate for unlimited copying of the document. It is a two-page newsletter that alerts readers to new resources for older adults and for persons with disabilities.

Golian, Linda Marie and Linda Lou Wiler. "Older Adults: Problems and Needs." In *Patron Behavior in Libraries: A handbook of Posititve Approaches to Negative Situations.* Chicago: American Library Association, 1996.

Missouri Bar. *Senior Citizens Handbook.* 11th ed. Jefferson City, MO: Missouri Bar, 2000. *http://www.mobar.org/pamphlet/srhandbk.htm*

This booklet serves as a reference source and guide for senior citizens and persons of all mature ages. The material included is based on the laws and practices of the state of Missouri.

Morrell, R. and K. Echt. "Designing Instructions for Computer use by Older Adults." In *Handbook of Human Factors and the Older Adult.* New York: Academic Press, 1997.

While the focus is on writing instructions for computer usage, the overall discussion on writing to be understood by older adults is very useful.

Fisk Arther, *Older Americans Information Directory.* 3rd ed. Lakeville, CT.: Grey House Publishing, 2000.

This is a comprehensive guide to resources for and about older Americans. The third edition contains over 1,000 new listings, over 8,000 updates to existing listings, and over 3,000 new e-mail addresses and websites.

Pipher, Mary. *Another Country: Navigating the Emotional Terrain of Our Elders.* New York: Riverhead Books, 1999.

A sensitive overview of the many emotions older adults have, which often cannot be expressed.

Rowe, John and Robert Kahn. *Successful Aging.* New York: Pantheon, 1998.

This work takes a positive approach to aging, dispelling myths and identifying ageism.

Rubin, Rhea Joyce and Gail McGovern. *Working with Older Adults: A Handbook for Libraries.* 3rd ed. Sacramento: California State Library Foundation, 1990.

A basic overview of most aspects involved in working with older adults is given.

White House Conference on Aging. (1995: Washington, D.C.) United States. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science. *Toward the 1995 White House Conference on Aging: Priorities and Policies for Library and Information Services for Older Adults.* Washington, D.C.: The Commission, 1995.

Proceedings of a National Pre-White House Conference on Aging. Contents include testimonies and recommendations from a variety of practicing librarians and professionals who advocate for older adults.

Van Fleet, Connie. "Public Libraries, Lifelong Learning, and Older Adults: Background and Recommendations." *In Public Libraries and Community Based Education: Making the Connection for Life Long Learning Conference Sponsored by the National Institute on Postsecondary Education, Libraries, and Lifelong Learning, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, U.S. Department of Education.* [Online]. Available: *http://www.ed.gov/pubs/PLLIConf95/vanfleet.html.*

Van Fleet gives recommendations about staff development and library continuing education for libraries committed to enhancing services to older adults.

Electronic Resources

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP). *http://www.aarp.org.*

The most complete site on issues concerning older adults and their families. The AARP website hosts book talks and contains links to a multitude of service providers.

Missouri Governor's Council on Disability Resource Directory. *http://www.dolir.state. mo.us/gcd/directory/index.htm.*

The council educates the public to promote positive images.

LinkAge 2000. *http://www.library.thinkquest.org/10120/.*

LinkAge 2000 is a website created to provide students from around the world with the opportunity to interactively learn about aging and older adults. In addition, LinkAge 2000 serves as a resource for educators who wish to learn more about aging.

National Council on the Aging. *http://www.aging-world.com.*

The National Council on the Aging fosters innovations in technology, products, and programs for older adults and works closely with enterprising corporations in partnerships to recognize innovations in the field of aging. The council celebrates the many contributions of older people and cultures that demonstrate respect for older persons, as well as products, services, and programs for older adults.

United States. Department of Health and Human Services. Administration on Aging (AoA). *http://www.aoa.dhhs.gov.*

The AoA offers numerous brochures (primarily on health) which can be ordered in bulk for distribution to seniors.

Upper Hudson Library System: Seniors + Libraries Connect. *http://www.uhls.org/ seniorsconnect.*

Seniors + Libraries Connect is a good demonstration of how libraries and community agencies can partner to create an information resource for older adults.

Video Resources

Terra Nova Productions
9848 South Winchester Avenue
Chicago, IL 60643
(800) 779-8491
http://www.terranova.org/

> Terra Nova produces and distributes videos which address the concerns of older adults. The Terra Nova catalog focuses on seniors as a diverse group of individuals, who have different issues and concerns. Titles can be purchased or rented. Some Terra Nova videos can also be used to stimulate discussions on the topic of ageism.

Collection Development

Print Resources

Anderson, Laurie, et al. "Reading Needs Of Older Adults: A Survey." *Wilson Library Bulletin.* 67 (November 1992): 41-44.

The Complete Directory of Large Print Books & Serials. New Providence, NJ: Bowker, 2001.

> The directory contains over 16,700 large print, active titles, including 3,300 added in the last year. Publishers and ordering information are provided for all entries.

"Know What Seniors Are Reading." *Fund Raising Management.* 25 (January 1995): 37.

> While this article was written to enlighten marketers as to what print materials older adults are reading, librarians will also gain valuable data.

Ring, Anne. *Read Easy: Large Print Libraries for Older Adults.* Seattle: CAREsource Program Development, 1991.

> An easy-to-read guide to developing a large print library for seniors in nursing homes. Although the book lists are somewhat dated, the overview offered is useful.

Zabel, Diane. "Look Who's Fifty: Building a Collection for Your Aging Baby Boomers." *Reference and User Services Quarterly.* 39 (Winter 1999): 128-135.

Large Print Suppliers

The American Printing House for the Blind
1839 Frankfort Avenue
Louisville, KY 40206
(800) 223-1839
http://www.aph.org

> Primarily a publisher of high school and college textbooks, but they also offer large print classic fiction and nonfiction.

Bantam Doubleday Dell
Customer Service
2451 South Wolf Road
Des Plains, IL 60018
(800) 223-5780
http://www.bdd.com

Large print mainstream adult novels.

Thomas T. Beeler
P.O. Box 659
Hampton Falls, NH 03844
(603) 772-1175

Beeler Large Print publishes 24 new titles per year, all hardcover, in 16-point font. The company also publishes Sagebrush Large Print westerns, and resells many books by other publishers on a variety of topics, including popular fiction and nonfiction, and Cyber Classics, classic paperbacks in large print.

Chivers North America
P.O. Box 411
5131 Lafayette Road
Hampton, NH 03842-0015
(800) 621-0812
http://chivers.uk.com

Wide selection of fiction and nonfiction titles in both large print and audio.

Random House
400 Hahn Road
Westminster, MD 21157
(800) 726-0600
http://www.vintagebooks.com

Offers many popular large print titles, especially best sellers.

Transaction Large Print
Rutgers State University of New Jersey
35 Berrue Circle
Piscataway, NJ 08854
(888) 999-6778
http://www.transactionpub.com

Backlist contains over 300 titles including fiction, biographies, contemporary history, health and self-improvement, and animals and nature. Transaction also resells ISIS books, which features classic British and American literature.

Some libraries may want to provide large print periodicals for their elderly patrons. Here are a few suggestions.

BVA Bulletin

> Newsletter of the Blinded Veterans Association. It includes news on technology, legislation, employment, and association activities. Frequency: bimonthly; cost: free; available in large print and cassette. Publisher: Blinded Veterans Association, Washington, DC (800) 669-7079.

New York Times Large Print Weekly

> Weekly recap of national news, including business, people, features, sports, and reviews condensed from the New York Times. Frequency: weekly; cost: est. $70.20 per year; available in large print and flexible disk (vinyl record). (800) 631-2580.

Reader's Digest

> Includes selections from the popular magazine anthology. Frequency: monthly; cost: est. $19.95 per year. (800) 877-5293.

Electronic Resources

Seniors Research Group. *http://www.ncoa.org/srg/srg.html.*

> The Seniors Research Group is a partnership of the National Council on the Aging and Market Strategies (a market research firm located in Michigan). The Group conducts national surveys on aging and develops demonstration projects on innovative social, health, and supportive programs in community service organizations. Seniors Research Group also provides training to community organizations. Current work includes intergenerational and older adult volunteer programs.

SeniorsSearch. *http://www.seniorssearch.com.*

> A search directory for the "over-50 age group."

SPRY Foundation. *http://www.spry.org/.*

> SPRY (Setting Priorities for Retirement Years) is a nonprofit foundation established in Washington, DC in 1991. SPRY's mission is to be a leader in research and education aimed at ways to achieve successful aging. SPRY works with leaders in the field of aging and disseminates information to consumers worldwide. A copy of their booklet "Older Adults and the World Wide Web: A Guide for Website Creators," is available for downloading on the site.

Audio & Video Resources

AudioVision Canada. *http://webhome.idirect.com/~nbrs/mpglinks/audiovision/index.html.*

Writers, narrators, and technicians create a concise, unobtrusive description of the visual elements of classic films. Viewers with diminished vision can hear the narration on the soundtrack and see the program in their mind's eye.

Descriptive Video Service – WGBH, Boston. *http://www.wgbh.org/*.

Partly funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Descriptive Video Service offers a wide variety of video products, including titles from PBS and Turner Classic Movies, and the latest video releases.

MediaBay.com. *http://www.mediabay.com*

Old-time radio shows on cassette.

Narrative Television Network. *http://www.narrative.com*.

The Narrative Television Network makes movies and television programming accessible to blind and visually impaired people through narration, an "extra" voice added to the show to describe the visual elements of the story. Popular television shows, such as *Andy Griffith* and *Matlock*, are among their holdings.

Programming and Services

Multimedia

Bi-Folkal Production Kits
809 Williamson Street
Madison, WI 53703
(800) 568-5357
http://www.bifolkal.org

Bi-Folkal kits offer persons seeking a "packaged" senior program an instant presentation. Each kit includes a video, audio tapes, large print booklets, suggestions for activities, large print skit scripts, paraphernalia (props), and leader's manual. The kit comes in a storage bag.

Bi-Folkal has begun to offer pieces of the kit for individual purchase. The audio tapes, video tapes, and the programming booklet can each be purchased separately. Bi-Folkal also offers a number of other products which are useful for older adult programs. The website provides access to Bi-Folkal Times, a newsletter which provides unique ideas for programming.

ElderSong Publications
P.O. Box 74
Mt. Airy, MD 21771
(800) 397-0533
http://eldersong.com/

ElderSong Publications is a publisher and distributor of books, recordings and videos to use when planning activities for older adults. ElderSong's complete catalog is available on their website. Products are occasionally offered at discounted prices.

Print Resources

Caban, Belen and Kathy Shahbodaghi. "Targeting the Older Adult: Project Super Seniors." *New Library Scene.* 8 (December 1989): 17.

This article describes an innovative older adult outreach program launched by the Whetstone Branch Library of the Columbus Metropolitan Library System. The Super Seniors campaign was a month-long series of programs held twice a week. An overview of programming and marketing ideas is discussed.

James, Helen Foster. *Across the Generations: Selecting and Using Intergenerational Resources.* Fort Atkinson, WI: Highsmith, 1996.

Provides information to conduct intergenerational programs on immigration, aging and death, families and traditions, as well as activities that include history projects, genealogy, and oral history. Contains a comprehensive, age-specific, annotated list of current books, videos, and organizational resources to support the programs and activities.

Library Outreach Reporter
148 Liberty Street
Fords, NJ 08863
(732) 738-5183
outreachreporter@aol.com.

This newsletter for outreach, special and adult services focuses on areas such as library services to older adults, bookmobiles, service to persons with disabilities, literacy/ESL, and multicultural library service.

Rubin, Rhea Joyce. *Intergenerational Programming: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians.* New York: Neal-Schumann, 1992.

Saunders, Kate. "Expanding Outreach Service to Seniors." *American Libraries.* 23 (February 1992): 176-180.

The Driftwood Library in Lincoln City, Oregon, developed a resource center containing multimedia kits relevant to senior citizens. Volunteers were trained to disseminate the materials at adult foster care homes and senior housing complexes.

Van Fleet, Connie. "A Matter of Focus: Reference Services for Older Adults." *Reference Librarian.* 49-50 (1995): 147.

Electronic Resources

American Memory Project. *http://memory.loc.gov.*

> The American Memory Project is a digitized collection of Americana. Many of these collections may be of interest to seniors. This site offers a learning page for students, teachers, and lifelong learners, which helps direct the visitor to develop questions and locate resources. Programming ideas may be found here that would result in meaningful intergenerational programming.

Brooklyn Public Library. *http://www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/programs/seniors.html.*

> Brooklyn Public Library has a page which focuses on programs and services, as well as a calendar of free events for older adults. Additionally, the site demonstrates methods website authors could use to design a website which is accessible to persons with low vision.

Elderhostel. *http://www.elderhostel.org.*

> A nonprofit organization that provides educational adventures all over the world to adults aged fifty-five and over. Online catalogs of program offerings serve to spark programming ideas.

New York Public Library. *http://www.nypl.org/branch/cos/older.*

> New York Public Library has a long history of offering programs for older adults and for outreach programming to nursing homes, and many are described on this website. A multicultural heritage calendar is provided for programming ideas. This site also serves as a good example for those wishing to develop a senior website.

SeniorNet. *http://www.seniornet.org.*

> A national nonprofit organization that provides adults 50+ access to and education about computer technology and the Internet to enhance their lives and enable them to share their knowledge and wisdom. Seniors visiting the site can participate in a number of discussion groups (including a book discussion group).

Van Fleet, Connie. "Library Resources for Elders." *American Society on Aging.* [Online]. Available: *http://asaging.org/at/at-204/Vanfleet.html.*

> Describes a pilot project conducted in 20 libraries across the U.S. which was a cooperative venture of National Video Resources and the American Library Association, and was supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The program discussed the impact and complexities of World War II. Van Fleet also touches on several other innovative library projects of interest to program developers.

Senior Life

Electronic Resources

Age of Reason. *http://www.ageofreason.com.*

> Over 5,000 links to sites of interest to the over-fifty group.

American Society on Aging. *http://www.asaging.org.*

> ASA is an organization of professionals who work with and on behalf of the aging. The organization offers programs and specialized training on aging.

ElderNet. *http://www.eldernet.com.*

> Links to topics of interest for seniors.

Go60.com. *http://www.go60.com/.*

> News, free e-mail, and other items of interest to seniors, such as computing, finances, and travel.

Senior.Com. *http://www.senior.com/.*

> Seniors visiting this site will find links to entertainment, technology, faith, health, insurance, money, relationship, travel, and game sites. News highlights are included. Directions on how to make arrangements for White House cards to be sent to individuals over eighty and couples celebrating their fiftieth anniversary are included.

Library Organizations

Library organizations provide opportunities for library staff to network about library services to seniors. The organizations listed below are divisions of the American Library Association.

Reference and User Services Association (RUSA)
Management and Operation of User Services Sections (MOUSS)
Services to an Aging Population Committee
American Library Association
50 E. Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611
(800) 454-2433, ext. 4395
http://www.ala.org/rusa/mouss/committees/aging/aging.html

> This committee works to make library services to the aged more effective.

Office of Literacy and Outreach Services (OLOS)
Intergenerational Subcommittee
American Library Association
50 E. Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611
(800) 454-2433, ext. 4395
http://www.ala.org/olos/intergen/intergenerational.html

> This subcommittee works to develop and exchange information and ideas for intergenerational projects.

Association of Specialized and Cooperative Library Agencies (ASCLA)
Libraries Serving Special Populations Section
Library Service to the Impaired Elderly Forum
American Library Association
50 E. Huron Street
Chicago, IL 60611
(800) 454-2433, ext. 4395

> This forum's mission is to advocate for library services for older adults who have an impairment.